I FROMMEN SEE AND APPLAUD "THE CHRISTIAN



gymen from all over New York and from further afield flocked to the Knickerbocker Theatre yesterday morning. A matince performance of "The Christian" had been arranged especially for their con-

T the invitation of Hall Caine, cler-

One might have thought that a conference a presbytery was in session, save for he presence of women-for Mr. Caine's guests had brought their wives with them, or the most part, and daughters, too. If

any of Mr. Caine's invitations had been declined there was no indication of it. The

Deep Interest in Storm.

But laughter is not the purpose of "The

F terday. They saw his play, and they seemed to like it. They applauded r. Caine when he made them a speech and they clapped their hands at every telling speech and situation in "The Christian." When Mr. Caine made his little speech the clergymen became serious at once, because Mr. Caine was serious. He gave them to understand that "The Christian" was no mere work of art created for pleasure or amusement, but a highly important ethical work. And he said many agreeable and improving and serious things about the relations be-

THE WORLD WOULD BE BETTER FOR MORE SUCH PLAYS.

tween the stage and the pulpit. Whereupon the playgoing elergymen clapped their hands more vigorously.

HE play exceeded my expectations. I was agreeably disappointed in it. I had heard so much of it, and what I had heard was not in its favor. I can only praise it. It certainly teaches a lesson, but the lessons of Christ Himself are surely better to be taugh than through the instrumentality of a play, I must say this for "The Christian." While it is a play of passion as compared to that peaceful idyl, 'Shore Acres," it is a well-meaning and a wholesome play. Neither man nor woman can see it and go away without having imbibed some of its wholesomeness, some of its moral teachings. It is a rare treat to see such plays. Perhaps the world might be better, the stage certainly, if there were more like it. - The Rev. Benjamin F.

EXCELLENT, BUT THE DOXOLOGY IS GOING TOO FAR.

THE play is excellent. I enjoyed it. I do not care to criticise it or ddiscuss it at present, but I must say it is going beyond the merely artistic to sing the "Doxology" on the stage. The music might be given on the organ, but not the words .- The Rev. Thomas R. Slicer.

THE LOVELIEST AUDIENCE IN THE WORLD, SAYS VIOLA ALLEN. TSS ALLEN was much pleased over the evidently favorable impression "The Christian" made on the audi-

ence of clergymen who witnessed the performance. She said: "As Mr. Caine remarked in his address, I do not think the piece had ever been so well received. Each part was accepted as well as any other. It was evident that the clergymen understood and appreciated the Christian," and other emotions quickly o motive of John Storm, and the conflicting moods, the ambitions and the struggles with self of Glory Quayle, I never before played before an audience of this character, and the experience was most enjoyable. From my first entrance I felt I was before a sympathetic audience, which is an inspiration in itself. As I said to Mr. Caine before he went on the stage to address the clergymen, 'An audience of such gentlemen and their wives · and daughters makes the loveliest audience in the world to play before."

HALL CAINE AND THE CLERGY. VIEWED BY ALAN DALE

Storm's efforts to regenerate her. Intrewere even appreciative titters at Lord
Robert Ure's languid cynicism. "A poor
girl has been lost and found—she is a
mother," says Storms. "How original"
ejaculates his lordship. Mr. Caine from his
humor. And this gush has proceeded
humor. And this gush has proceeded
humor. And this gush has proceeded
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Storm's efforts to regenerate her.

HE arldity of the closed week has been it, quoth grandpapa, and it made perhaps
cloak for humbugs—if it be viewed from
humor. And this gush has proceeded
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with the biggest sensation of the day. And the
cloak for humbugs—if it be viewed from
humor. And this gush has proceeded
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THOSE WHO

WERE PRESENT

The following cieraymen were present:

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Cleary to the first of the control o

of Morals.

ADIES and Gentlemen-It is with dif-

except another man in the moon. To that moral questions have no right to add themselves on the stage is to make upossible demand. It is also to formula dangerous theory. If moral ideas do occupy the attention of the drama imit ones speedily will do so, and the that takes no color from morality in one of other never all and some services.

ones speedily will do so, and the takes no color from morality in one other never did and never can exist, y earliest days in London they proteanyson's "Promise of May." I seem at that frightfol flasco. The as not a good one, it did not follow to condition of amusing its nucleace, failure that night was due less to site defects than to its daring treation morals. The people howled and it will be in the first of the drama to deal noral questions. That night in my is I wrote to Teanyson. I meant get my letter with what I know to the unfavorable newspapers next g. I didn't know the old poet then, obody knew me, out the next post in me a reply.

Stage." He answered, "must be in low state indeed, if, as some dracrifics are telling us, none of the moral and social questions of the moral of the drama as a force in life.

value of the drama as a force in life of always has been the measure of its to combine with amusement the role of dealing with the great issues of its great passions, its great issues of its great passions, its great sins, its sorrows, its great self-sacrifices, its atonements. That being so, I know rely any scene more fit and proper to focus much the theatre. If he away from it from contempt of the side of the drama, he weakens the side of the drama, he weakens the iter side. By giving his countenance atsoever is pure and wholesome and od report, he strengthens the theatre moral force.

CAPTAIN ONE FOR



CAPTAIN O'KEEFE DIES AT ST. VINCENT'S.

He Never Recovers from the Stroke of Paralysis at the Engel Dinner.

Police Captain O'Keefe, of the Eldridge have street station, who was stricken with sar-



by trying this

cine for dys-pepsia, indiges-Hostetter's ters. It goes to the root of the